

04-07-06

Serial No. 10/811,743  
Reply to Office Action of March 15, 2006



Attorney Docket No. SCH-10002/04

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Gunther Merz et al.

Serial No.: 10/811,743

Group Art Unit: 1771

Filing Date: March 29, 2004

Examiner: Andrew T. Piziali

For: SOFT MATERIAL COMPENSATOR

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement of March 15, 2006, Applicant hereby elects the first species of each of the four species groups.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-13, 15-18, 19 and 20 all read on the elected species.

Examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

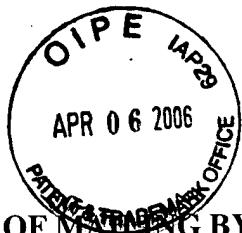
Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this paper or fee (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn L. Hill". Below the signature, the name "Lynn L. Hill" is written in a smaller, printed font.